



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Paper No. 9

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In re Application of ) MAR 8 2002  
ONO et al. )  
Application No. 09/745,672 )  
Filed: December 21, 2000 )  
For: Musical Tone Signal Generation Apparatus ) DECISION SUA SPONTE  
Accommodated for Multiple Users Playing ) WITHDRAWING THE HOLDING  
Music in Ensemble ) OF ABANDONMENT

This is a decision, *sua sponte*, withdrawing the holding of abandonment of the above-identified application.

A non-final Office action was mailed on May 23, 2001, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response. In the apparent absence of a proper response, the application was held abandoned, and a Notice of Abandonment was mailed on January 15, 2002.

Although no petition or request to withdraw the holding of abandonment in this application has been filed,<sup>1</sup> the Notice of Abandonment is hereby vacated, and the holding of abandonment withdrawn, in view of the fact that a response to the Office action was filed on January 29, 2002, with a certificate of mailing dated November 21, 2001, and has recently been associated with the application file. Any inconvenience to applicant is regretted, though this may be due to the unforeseeable mail delays caused by the United States Postal Service between October 13, 2001, and January 2, 2002.

The application file is being forwarded to the technical support staff for Technology Center 2800 for processing of the response filed on January 29, 2002.



Hien H. Phan, Special Programs Examiner  
Technology Center 2800  
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<sup>1</sup>A copy of the response to the Office action was transmitted to the Office via facsimile on November 30, 2001.